

## **The Department of Vermont Health Access Medical Policy**

### **Subject: Blood Glucose Monitor**

**Last Review:** June 2, 2015

**Revision 4:** April 3, 2014

**Revision 3:** June 3, 2014

**Revision 2:** March 20, 2012

**Revision 1:** March 10, 2011

**Original Effective:** 2006

### **Description of Service or Procedure**

A blood glucose monitor is an electronic device that allows for testing of the concentration of glucose in the blood used for the management of individuals with diabetes mellitus. A blood glucose test is performed by piercing the skin (typically, on the finger) to draw blood, then applying the blood to a chemically active disposable test-strip. Manufacturers use various technologies, but most systems measure an electrical characteristic, and use this to determine the glucose level in the blood.

### **Disclaimer**

Coverage is limited to that outlined in Medicaid Rule that pertains to the beneficiary's aid category. Prior Authorization (PA) is only valid if the beneficiary is eligible for the applicable item or service on the date of service.

### **Medicaid Rule**

[7102.2](#) Prior Authorization Determination

[7103](#) Medical Necessity

[7505](#) - Durable Medical Equipment

Medicaid Rules can be found at <http://humanservices.vermont.gov/on-line-rules>

### **Coverage Position**

A Blood Glucose Monitor may be covered for beneficiaries:

- When the blood glucose monitor is prescribed by a licensed medical provider, enrolled in the Vermont Medicaid program, operating within their scope of practice in accordance with Vermont State Practice Act, who is knowledgeable in the use of blood glucose monitors and who provides medical care to the beneficiary AND
- When the clinical guidelines below are met.



## **Coverage Guidelines**

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A blood glucose monitor, designed for home use may be covered for beneficiaries who:

- Have a diagnosis of diabetes (Type I, Type II, and Gestational Diabetes) AND
- Are treated for diabetes with insulin and/or oral hypoglycemic agents, diet and activity AND
- Participated in a comprehensive diabetic training program instructed by a currently certified diabetic educator and includes training in proper diet, medication, and monitoring; and the beneficiary and/or caregiver has demonstrated the ability to appropriately use the prescribed blood glucose monitor

Blood glucose monitors with special features for the visually impaired (20/200 'best corrected vision' or conditions limiting visual field which prevent ability to read monitor) or for persons with impaired dexterity and requires supporting documentation for the impairment that justifies medical necessity for special features.

## **Clinical guidelines for repeat service or procedure**

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Blood glucose monitors (Glucometers) are limited to one every five years.

## **References**

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